

Church

God's people are set free from bondage to love one another as God loved them

SET FREE TO LOVE
(James 2:8-18; 1 John 4:7-12)

"No man hath seen God at any time. If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and His love is perfected in us." (1 John 4:12)

The Scripture text given for today's study is selected passages from the books James and John. Mr. Edwin V. Hayden, writing for the Standard Lesson Commentary, International Sunday School Lessons, made some noteworthy comments concerning today's study. Quote, "Today's lesson texts confirm truths that did not come easily to their writers. Faith did not come easily to James, half brother to Jesus; and brotherly love did not come easily to the Apostle John.

James, who wrote this treatise bearing his name, was one of four sons of Joseph and Mary, who were One Commentarian noted that this law sits on a throne, and it makes kingly those who obey it.

The Scriptures, in both the Old and New Testaments, commands even handed justice to rich and poor alike. Material favoritism violates God's commandments, and, in fact runs counter to righteous living. James caught the enormity of this great commandment, and his conscious soared high as he viewed the necessity of keeping it if one was to have the right relationship with the Lord.

In verse 9 he gave this warning (paraphrased) "If you respect people on the basis of their material possessions, you commit sin.

KNOWING GOD
(1 John 4:7-12)

Several decades had passed between the writing of James epistle and the writing of John's. The aged John was still a "Son of Thunder" when thunder was needed to refute false teaching. There were many false teachers in the first century. John had lived long and learned much. He had become known as the Apostle of Love. The gnostics were teaching, among other questionable things, that God's Son could not have lived in a physical body.

If Christ had not lived in human form then He could not have suffered and died on the cross, which is the essential of Christian faith. To the gnostics, who had a noticeable lack of compassion for those about them who

were suffering and in need, but who claimed an inside special relationship to God, John replied to them point blank. "He that loveth not, knoweth not God; for God is love." (1 John 4:8) (Lesson based on the International Sunday School Lessons) well known in Nazareth. Toward the end of His ministry Jesus' brothers still did not believe in Him, although they were impressed with His miracles. They seem, however, to have been convinced by His resurrection from the dead, and they were found among His disciples before the great day of Pentecost.

Afterward, James continued in the company of the Apostles and became a leader in the church at Jerusalem. The Apostle John, the son of Zebedee

and brother of James who was killed by Herod, was always "the disciple who Jesus loved," but he was not always the Apostle of love.

The two brothers were nicknamed "sons of thunder" by Jesus. It was they who suggested that Jesus call down fire on a Samaritan Village because it refused them hospitality. Yet, sixty years later the Apostle John could say with utmost sincerity, "My little children, love one another." (Unquote)

ROYAL LAW KEEPING
(James 2:8-13)

James wrote his epistle about A.D. 50 and thus it was one of the first New Testament books to be circulated in writing. It's theme is the oneness of God and the "Royal Law"—"Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself."

(Leviticus 19). It is upon these principle truths that the believer is to build his life.

James is addressing primarily a problem in the early church, and, no doubt, many churches since. The problem involves treating the rich worshippers better than poor folk in the public meetings of the church. When Jesus was asked which commandment was greatest, He named first the command to love God with one's whole being. Then He added this one, "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." This law is royal, as belonging to a king. It is given by the King of kings.

Arthritis Foundation publishes magazine

Americans with arthritis now have a new source for the most up-to-date information about their disease. It's a magazine called "Arthritis Today," which is now published six times a year by the Arthritis Foundation. The first issue was distributed to about 600,000 homes across the country during the first two weeks of January, 1987.

"There are almost 40 million Americans who have a form of arthritis," said Betsy Brewster Case, who serves as national chairman of the Arthritis Foundation and who herself has rheumatoid arthritis. "They and their families want to know the latest about arthritis research and treatment, and they want to know how to best overcome their disease in everyday living. The Arthritis Foundation's official new membership magazine gives that and much more."

"Arthritis Today" is the best source for the most current information about new research, products, medications and treatments. There are also practical tips for making the person with arthritis more comfortable, independent and productive. "Arthritis Today" replaces the newsletter-style publication titled "National Arthritis News," which has been the Arthritis Foundation's official membership publication since 1980.

"The tone of our magazine is very upbeat and positive," said Ms. Case. "We want to show people that they don't have to be depressed or give up on life just because they have arthritis. 'Arthritis Today' allows people with arthritis to regain control over their body and to improve their frame of mind."

The magazine deals with the financial and emotional concerns of people who have arthritis, as well as with the physical aspects of having arthritis. For example, upcoming issues will feature articles about obtaining health insurance, communicating with family members and accessibility to public places. Each issue will also provide practical information, such as tips on travel, exercise and medications.

"Most people who have arthritis must live with it for the rest of their life," said Ms. Case. "We at the Arthritis Foundation show them how to live in the most pain-free and most productive ways possible."

"Arthritis" is the term for a group of about 100 related diseases that include rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis, gout, lupus, bursitis and spinal arthritis. For information about "Arthritis Today," write to the Arthritis Foundation, NC Division at 3115 Guess Road, Durham, N.C. 27705.

Orchestra to perform

The North Carolina Symphony Chamber Orchestra will perform on Thursday, February 19 at 8:00 p.m. in the Earnest A. Swain Auditorium in Edenton under the baton of Associate Conductor, James Ogle. A performance by the Edenton Choral Society and the John A. Holmes Concert Choir in combination with the Orchestra will be the highlight of the concert.

The first half of the 1987 program includes Beethoven's Overture to Kin Stephen, Op. 117, and Mozart's Symphony No. 36 in C Major, K. 425, ("Linz"). Following intermission the Edenton Choral Society and the Holmes High School Concert Choir will assemble with the Orchestra on stage, and will perform three vocal pieces. The group of over one hundred musicians and vocalists will present Mozart's "The Gloria in Excelsis" from the Twelfth Mass. This

will be followed by Randall Thompson's The Last Words of David, and the final selection, Peter J. Wilhousky's "The Battle Hymn of the Republic". The February 19 program will conclude with the Orchestra alone on stage for the contemporary Aaron Copeland's Suite from Appalachian Spring, which promises to round out one of the most balanced programs on the Symphony's long and appreciated record with Chowan County.

Advance tickets for the performance are currently on sale at \$7.00 for adults and \$4.00 for students and senior citizens. Requests may be directed to ticket sales chairman, Mrs. Barbara Burroughs, at 482-2624 in Edenton. Tickets will be available the week before the concert at Hollowell & Clout Pharmacy and at Mitchener's Pharmacy on Broad Street in Edenton. Sales will also be made at the door on concert night, but at the price of \$8.00.

Area church news

First Baptist schedule

First Baptist Church Sunday school begins at 9:45 a.m. with the superintendent, Mrs. R.B. Gibbs, in charge. Morning worship starts at 11:00 a.m. with Pastor J.H. London preaching from the subject "The

New Covenant" Luke 22:20.

The senior choir will sing and the Holy Communion will be served.

You are cordially invited to attend this worship service.



Pictured left is Tonya Howell. Tonya is Vice President of the District Beta Club. She will be running for State Vice President of the Beta Club in Greensboro on March 6th and 7th.

Dear friends,



A death in the family may create problems for survivors which may be lessened by discussion and preplanning.

Funeral and burial arrangements are important and should be freely discussed. Some people choose to prearrange and prefinance a funeral to assist their survivors after death occurs.

Respectfully,

Larry S. Swindell

Swindell Funeral Home, Inc.

509 Dobbs Street
Hertford, N.C.
426-7311

NOTICE OF BID FOR HOUSING REHABILITATION WORK TOWN OF HERTFORD

Notice is hereby given that bid packages may be obtained on or after Thursday, February 5, 1987, during normal office hours at the Hertford Town Hall for the rehabilitation of approximately seven (7) dwelling units. Bids will be received and opened on Thursday, February 17, 1987, at 3:00 P.M. at the Hertford Town Hall. This work is funded through the State of North Carolina, FY 1984, Small Cities and Community Development Block Grant Program.

The Town of Hertford is an Equal Opportunity Employer and encourages bidding by Small and Minority Contractors. Inquires should be directed to the Town of Hertford at 426-5311.

WHERE MERCY IS APPLIED

By Raymond C. Needham
Hertford Baptist Church
Hertford, N.C.

Jesus had a lot to say about our personal relationships with others. It matters both in time and eternity how we treat our fellowmen. In Luke 6:36 He says, "Be ye therefore merciful, as your Father also is merciful." How can we put this into practice? Where can we show mercy today?

First, we can be merciful in our thoughts. Do we tend to think of others harshly, condemnly, or suspiciously? Are we in the habit of always thinking only bad negative thoughts about them? Our Lord would have us show mercy even in our thinking about others. Look for the good in what they do and say. Ask God to give you an eye to see the good. In so doing, you are showing others kindness, and you become an inspiration to those with whom you associate.

Secondly, be merciful in word each day. So often we are tempted to use cutting, ill-humored words. Let us pray for grace to hold our peace even though that person may be filled with an unpleasant and obtrusive disposition. Oh, what merciful words from you may mean to them at such a time. They may be the calming balm to that storm-tossed soul. Your merciful words may help them to see the error of their way and seek the Saviour Who can make them a "new creature."

Thirdly, be merciful in deed today. Be willing to serve; do some little deed of kindness that you really are not obligated to do. It is the way of mercy and love to minister good to others. What a happiness it brings to the heart of those in the home and place of

work when, by our deeds, we show them that we care.

Fourth, be merciful in your whole being. What do we mean by this? In all the dealings of the entire day, be friendly and kind to others. Every contact of a day is an opportunity to show to others the mercy which we ourselves have received of the Lord. Through us the Lord can reveal His grace to our fellow men as we're kind and merciful in all our ways.

Fifth, be merciful for Jesus' sake. It was because of love and mercy that Jesus came to earth to give His life on the cross for sinners. Is there anything that He needs more than friends who are merciful? These are the ones who make His gospel irresistible to those for whom He died. Further, if we ourselves have received of His mercy, shall not we show it to others for His sake?

Last, be merciful for your own sake. Jesus said, "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy." Again He said, "With what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again." There is another principle regarding relationships. "Give and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom."

"Be ye, therefore, merciful, as your Father also is merciful." Remember being merciful in word and deed begins with our being merciful in thought. To be merciful in thought is made possible by surrender to Him Who, in mercy, gave His life for us on Calvary's cross, Jesus Christ.

People's Bank & Trust Co.
MEMBER FDIC
Hertford, N.C.

The Perquimans Weekly
Perquimans County's Only Newspaper
For And About Perquimans People

Phillips Furniture Co.
FACTORY OUTLET
New and Rejct Furniture
U.S. 17 By-Pass
Hertford, N. C.

Reed Oil Company
EXXON PRODUCTS
HERTFORD, N.C.

Woodard's Pharmacy
A 10% Discount On All Prescriptions
For all Our Customers Age 60 Or Older.
426-5527

WINSLOW-BLANCHARD
Ford FORD
Your Dealer

HOLLOWELL OIL CO.
SUPPLIERS OF OIL PRODUCTS
Phone: 426-5745

Darden Department Store
109-111 N. Church St.
Hertford
426-5464

WOODLAND Dress Shop
108 S. WOODLAND ST.
Hertford
426-5620

Quality Clothing Outlet
Ward's Shopping Center
US 17 By Pass
Hertford, N.C.

Doziers Florist
MEMBER FTD
HARRIS SHOPPING CENTER
DAY PHONE 426-5721
NIGHTS 426-7592

PHILGAS 66
Community Gas Inc.
215 Edenton Road St.
Hertford, NC
426-5246

Cards of Thanks

The family of the late Mrs. Daisy Jackson Downing is very grateful and appreciative to all who extended expressions of sympathy and kindness during their hours of sadness. May God Bless you abundantly.
Hattie Downing and Family

To all who gave help and time at the demise of Murray D. Lane, the family is very grateful. Your expressions of sympathy, your prayers and your gifts were lovingly accepted.
The Family of Murray D. Lane